

# Important tests

Standardized tests measure knowledge and abilities. Below are brief descriptions of some of these, followed by a chart of test dates. Contact a counselor at the school you're interested in attending to see which tests are required or accepted. Keep in mind that the entrance/placement tests and tests for college credit described below are not accepted at all schools. Remember that the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) bonus award is based on your highest ACT or SAT composite score if you are eligible.

## Entrance/Placement Tests

The **ACT** is required or accepted at all public and private colleges in Kentucky. It has multiple-choice questions in English, math, reading and science reasoning, plus an optional essay test. For more information, visit [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

The **SAT** has three sections: critical reading, math and writing. **SAT Subject Tests** are one-hour tests in specific subjects. Check with the school you plan to attend to see if any are required. For more information, visit [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

The **ACT ASSET** is a series of short placement tests used primarily at community colleges. For more information, visit [www.act.org/asset/index.html](http://www.act.org/asset/index.html).

The **ACT Computerized Adaptive Placement Assessment and Support System (COMPASS)** tests mathematics, reading, writing and English as a second language to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in particular areas. COMPASS is accepted or required by some two-year schools. For more information, visit [www.act.org/compass/index.html](http://www.act.org/compass/index.html).

The **Career Programs Assessment (CPAt)** measures basic skills in language, reading and arithmetic and it takes about an hour to complete. Trade schools use this test. For more information, visit [www.act.org/cpat/index.html](http://www.act.org/cpat/index.html).

The **Graduate Management Admission Test® (GMAT®)** is often required for admission to a graduate school of business or management. The GMAT measures higher order mathematical, verbal and analytical writing skills. It is designed to help graduate schools of business assess applicants. For more information, write to the Graduate Management Admission Council, 1600 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 1400, McLean, VA, 22102; call 866.505.6559; or visit [www.mba.com](http://www.mba.com).

**Graduate Record Examinations® (GRE®)** scores are used by graduate schools, business schools, and fellowship sponsors to evaluate students' potential for graduate study. The computer-based GRE General Test measures verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking and analytical writing skills. The paper-based Subject Tests measure undergraduate achievement in eight specific fields of study. For more information, visit the GRE website at [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre).

## Tests for College

The **College-Level Examination Program® (CLEP®)**, which offers tests for many subjects taken during the first two years of college, lets you get credit for or get out of taking certain undergraduate courses. Visit [www.collegeboard.com/clep](http://www.collegeboard.com/clep) for more information.

The **Special Technical Educational Proficiency (STEP) Examination** lets KCTCS students show mastery of course content and receive credit for the course by scoring at least 70 percent on the exam. No letter grade is given for the course, and the student may take the exam for a course only once. There is a \$20 fee for a written exam, a \$40 fee for a lab exam.

# National test dates<sup>1</sup>



## Entrance/Placement Tests

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration <sup>2</sup>	Registration Fee <sup>3</sup>
<b>ACT</b>	<b>Saturdays:</b> September 12, 2009 October 24, 2009 December 12, 2009 February 6, 2010 April 10, 2010 June 12, 2010	August 7, 2009 September 18, 2009 November 6, 2009 January 5, 2010 March 5, 2010 May 7, 2010	August 21, 2009 October 2, 2009 November 20, 2009 January 15, 2010 March 19, 2010 May 21, 2010	\$31–ACT (no writing) \$46–Act (plus writing) Late registration fee: Additional \$20
<b>SAT Reasoning and SAT Subject Tests</b>	<b>Saturdays<sup>4</sup>:</b> October 10, 2009 December 5, 2009 January 23, 2010 May 1, 2010 June 5, 2010	Check <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a> for registration information	Check with your guidance counselor	Visit the College Board website at <a href="http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html">www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html</a>
<b>SAT Reasoning, SAT Subject, includes language tests with listening<sup>5</sup></b>	November 7, 2009			
<b>SAT I only</b>	March 6, 2010			
<b>ASSET</b>	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
<b>COMPASS</b>	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
<b>CPat</b>	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
<b>GMAT</b>	Visit the GMAT website at <a href="http://www.mba.com">www.mba.com</a>	Not applicable	Not applicable	Visit the GMAT website at <a href="http://www.mba.com">www.mba.com</a>
<b>GRE General Test</b>	Contact Educational Testing Service	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>
<b>GRE Subject Tests</b>	Contact Educational Testing Service	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>	Visit the GRE website at <a href="http://www.ets.org/gre">www.ets.org/gre</a>

## Tests for College Credit

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration <sup>2</sup>	Registration Fee <sup>3</sup>
CLEP <sup>®</sup>	Exams may be administered any time during the year depending on the school's policy and schedule.	Contact the local test center about registration and scheduling procedures.	Not applicable	Check with the local test center
STEP	Set by the school	Contact the school about registration procedures.	Contact the school	\$20 fee for written exam \$40 fee for lab exam

<sup>1</sup> Subject to change.

<sup>2</sup> Additional fee required.

<sup>3</sup> Check with the testing service about fee waivers for students from low-income families.

<sup>4</sup> Sunday administration will occur the day after each Saturday administration.

<sup>5</sup> The Language Tests with Listening are offered in November only.